Date of Action

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# tional Register of Historic Places Hegistration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property			
historic name St.	John's Methodist Episcopal (	Church and Joshi	ua Thomas Chapel
other names/site number St.	John's United Methodist Chur		S-365 &
			S-44
2. Location	(100,060)		
	d Road (MD 363)	N/A	
city, town Deal Islan		N/A	<del></del>
state Maryland co	de MD county Somerset	code 0	39 zip code 21821
3. Classification			
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Reso	ources within Property
X private	X building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
public-local	district	2	0 buildings
public-State	site	1	sites
public-Federal	structure	<del></del>	structures
	object		objects
		3	0 Total
of related multiple property	listing:	Number of contr	ributing resources previously
	N/A		ional Register0
	N1#1 A1		<b>3</b>
4. State/Federal Agency Cer	uncation	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
In my opinion, the property X	aces and meets the procedural and profesmeets does not meet the National Real ATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFF	gister criteria. See	
State or Federal agency and burea	u		·
	. 🗖		
in my opinion, the property	meets does not meet the National Re	gister criteria See	continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other	official		Date
State or Federal agency and burea	u		
5. National Park Service Cert	ification		
I, hereby, certify that this property			
entered in the National Registe			
See continuation sheet.	51.		
determined eligible for the Nat	onal		
Register. See continuation sh			
termined not eligible for the		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
National Register.			
removed from the National Reconstruction of the contract of th			

Signature of the Keeper

		365		
6. Function or Use	S-44 & S-465			
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Fur	actions (enter categories from instructions)		
RELIGION/religious structure	RELIG	ION/religious structure		
FUNERARY/cemetery	FUNERA	ARY/cemetery		
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (e	nter categories from instructions)		
	foundation .	BRICK		
Greek Revival	foundation . walls	BRICK WEATHERBOARD		
Greek Revival				
		WEATHERBOARD		

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

### **DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:**

This complex consists of St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church, an 1879 frame Gothic building, Joshua Thomas Chapel, an 1850 Greek Revival frame structure, and the surrounding cemetery with nineteenth and twentieth century burials and markers. St. John's Church has a brick foundation, a steeply pitched roof, a three story bell tower rising on the northwest corner, shed roofed additions along the sides, and Gothic arched windows. On the interior, the church is characterized by large chamfered support posts with decorated corner brackets, pressed metal decoration, an altar rail with turned balusters, and an elaborately decorated balcony rail with heavy sawn balusters. Joshua Thomas Chapel is a rectangularly shaped pedimented gable-front one story structure sheathed in weatherboards with three double hung windows (12/12 lights) along the sides, and a pilastered entranceway with double doors. On the interior, the window and door surrounds are plain with undecorated corner blocks. The wooden pews have scrolled armrests. Surrounding the buildings is the tightly packed cemetery characterized by various types of grave markers and fencing.

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# Lational Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel 365
Somerset County, Maryland S-44 & S-465

Section number	77	Page	1
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#### • GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel complex stands on the east side of Deal Island Road, State Route 363, near the center of the community of Deal Island, Somerset County, Maryland. The complex consists of the 1879 Gothic St. John's Church, the 1850 Greek Revival Joshua Thomas Chapel, and the surrounding cemetery. The St. John's building has an east/west axis. The chapel sets at an angle several feet to the southeast of the church.

Built in 1879 with minor renovation in 1924, the <u>St. John's Church (S-365)</u> rests on a continuous brick foundation and is uniformly sheathed with aluminum siding. A steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt tiles. Rising on the northwest corner is a three-story bell tower.

The west road side elevation of the church is lighted by Gothic arched tripartite windows on two levels. The eave is bracketed and trimmed with decorative sawnwork in the peak. To the north is the three-story bell tower which contains a double-door entrance in the first floor. Victorian molded doors are topped by a three-pane Gothic arched transom. Lighting the second level are clover-leaf shaped windows. The belfry consists of four principal posts that flank Gothic arched bays which mark each side. Turned baluster railings stretch between each pair of posts. A tapered octagonal spire rises from the belfry and is topped by a ball finial.

The south side of the church is covered on the first floor by a shed addition that contains the principal double—door entrance in the west bay. The entrance bay is distinguished by a gable roof that interrupts the shed, and the double—door entrance is topped by a Gothic arched colored glass transom. East of the entrance are two sets of lancet windows that pierce the outside shed wall. The center set of three windows is covered by a shed roof slightly raised above the main shed, since the center set of windows is longer than the shed wall. Piercing the wall space between the shed and the main church roof is a series of six lancet windows of clear or etched glass.

The north side of the church is detailed in a similar manner as the south side with a shed roofed section and a row of clerestory windows. The east end of the church has a projecting single-story apse as well as rear Gothic arched entrances. Narrow brick stove stacks rise from the rear wall, and a round colored glass window is located in the upper gable.

365

## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# ..ational Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel

Somerset County, Maryland S-44 & S- $\frac{465}{}$ 

Section number \_\_\_7 Page \_\_2

The church interior is divided with a center aisle that connects the church vestibule with the altar. Large chamfered support posts with decorated corner braces support the side walls of the church and separate the side aisles from the main sanctuary. Located above the corner posts are clerestory windows and a row of pressed metal medallions. Covering the walls and ceiling are various pressed metal designs. The sanctuary walls are covered with an anchor motif, while a lobed block design covers the sanctuary ceiling. The interior of the Gothic arched apse is covered with pressed metal, and the corner is trimmed with rope molding. The altar is separated from the sanctuary by a semi-circular railing with turned balusters. The raised altar is furnished with turn of the century fittings. Some mid twentieth century wainscoting exists in limited areas.

Located in the rear of the sanctuary is a steep balcony stair with a chamfered newel post, heavy sawn balusters and a molded handrail. The balcony stair soffit is also covered with decorative patterned metal. The balcony railing on the second level follows along the same design with a decorative pattern to the sawn balusters.

The <u>Joshua Thomas Chapel (S-44)</u>, erected in 1850, is a gable-front church supported by a raised common bond brick foundation. It is sheathed with a uniform layer of weatherboards. The medium pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Located immediately south of the front steps is the grave marker of Reverend Joshua Thomas.

The westerly or front elevation is a pedimented facade with a center double door entrance. The pair of paneled doors is framed by a simply executed entablature with plain pilasters. The pediment is highlighted by a stepped bed molding, and the flush board tympanum is pierced by an eight-pane rectangular window.

Each side of the church has three evenly spaced twelve-over-twelve sash windows. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice with a stepped bed molding. The rear (east) elevation of the buildings is a plain weatherboard wall.

The interior of the chapel has been modified over the years with the addition of beaded board wainscoting. The windows and doors are simply framed with plain surrounds with undecorated corner blocks. A plain rectangular-shaped surround frames the space behind the altar, and two large support posts are centered within the room. The church furniture consists of a mid nineteenth-century altar and Victorian pews.

Surrounding the church and chapel is a <u>cemetery</u> of nineteenth and twentieth century burial sites and markers. Three family plots are distinguished by iron fences made by the Stewart Iron Works (3rd and Calvert streets, Cincinnati, Ohio). One is the Gibson family and two mark Webster family burials.

								365
8. Statement of Significance							S-44	& S <del>-465</del>
Certifying official has considered the	significance nation	_	perty in re		other X loca			
Applicable National Register Criteria	XA _	в ХС	D					
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	XA _	в 🗆 С	□ D	□E	□F	□G		
Areas of Significance (enter categorie Architecture Religion	s from instru	ctions)	- - -	Period of 1828	Signif -1900			Significant Dates 1850 1879
			- -	Cultural A	Affiliatio	on N/A		
Significant Person N/A			- ,	Architect/	Builde	Unknown		

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

#### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The significance of the Deal Island complex formed by the St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and the Joshua Thomas Chapel derives from the architectural character of the buildings and historic association with Methodism in Somerset County. Architecturally, the Joshua Thomas Chapel, built in 1850, is the finest example of the Greek Revival churches built in the county in the mid nineteenth century. Only two examples survive. The other church, St. Mark's Episcopal Church near Kingston, is smaller in scale and almost devoid of decoration. St. Mark's appears to be closer to typical of what was built than Joshua Thomas is. St. John's Church, erected in 1879, is one of the earliest examples of the more complexly designed and decorated churches being built in Somerset in the last quarter of the century. The earliest extant one of this type, the Upper Fairmount Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1873, is less complex in design than the St. John's Church which is only one story in height but gives the illusion of being two stories. Historically, the site of St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel is the oldest site in Somerset County in continuous use for Methodist meetings. Meetings began in tents in 1828. As the Deal Island group grew in size and strength, the chapel and then the church were built. Through most of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth, Methodism has been the most predominant religious sect in Somerset County. The earliest gathering is thought to have been held on Deal Island possibly as early as 1781.

NPS Form 10-900-a (9-86)

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# lational Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet St. John

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel

Somerset County, Maryland

S-44 & S-465

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>1</u>	ection n	n number	8	Page	1
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### \* HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870 Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning Religion

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

RELIGION/religious structure

FUNERARY/cemetery

Known Design Source: None

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# Tational Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel Somerset County, Maryland S-44 &

Section number 8 Page 2

#### - HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Methodism is an important aspect of Somerset County history. By the close of the nineteenth century, Methodism had become the predominant religious sect in this rural county. In the years following the American Revolution, particularly after 1800, Methodism rapidly expanded over the Delmarva Peninsula where Somerset County is located. At one point, despite significant national growth, nearly 19 percent of the Methodist membership lived on the peninsula. With this growth, Methodist churches were built in practically every town and rural community. By the close of the century the largest church structures in most towns were the Methodist churches.

Methodist gatherings in Somerset County are believed to have started on Deal Island possibly as early as 1781. On the present site of the St. John's Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel complex, meetings have been held since 1828. At first these meetings were held in tents. In 1850, the congregation was strong and wealthy enough to build the present chapel. In less than thirty years, growth presented the need for larger facilities and the St. John's church was built. In both instances, the buildings were constructed in fashionable modes. St. John's Church is one of the more complexly designed of the last quarter nineteenth century churches built in Somerset County.

The chapel is named in honor of Joshua Thomas, known as the "Parson of the Islands," who was a convert to Methodism who organized and held Methodist services on Tangier and Smith islands in Maryland and Virginia. During the British occupation of Tangier Island, Virginia in 1814, Thomas held services for the encamped soldiers. Later in his ministry, Thomas served several congregations on the lower Eastern Shore by traveling in his log canoe, "The Methodist." Around 1825, he relocated his family to Deal Island where he continued to minister the faith locally and afar. He delivered his last sermon in the present Joshua Thomas Chapel. Thomas is buried at the southwest corner of the building.

This site is historically known as Park's Grove. Accompanying the church on the knoll during the second half of the nineteenth century were an academy, post office, camp round, and meeting hall for the Sons of Temperance.

Architecturally, the Joshua Thomas Chapel is the best preserved of the Greek Revival churches. The austere Greek Revival design of the Joshua Thomas Chapel is not unusual to rural communities where modest finances and conservative philosophies often affected community-built structures. The exterior stylistic references were limited to the gable-front pediment and the simple classical surround that frames the double-door opening. The interior was finished in a similarly plain fashion with simple Greek Revival door and window surrounds.

See Continuation Sheet 8.3

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## ..ational Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel 365 Somerset County, Maryland S-44 & S-465

Section number 8 Page 3

St. John's United Methodist Church provides an interesting contrast to its nearby Greek Revival predecessor, the Joshua Thomas Chapel. Following recommended designs published in circulated literature on proper church architecture, the Deal Island Methodists financed the construction of an impressive Gothic Revival church. Attached to the northwest corner of the bi-level building was a three-story bell tower. Inside, the church walls were covered with pressed metal sheeting. One pattern that incorporated an anchor motif obviously related to the sea-faring occupations of many of its congregations. The church cemetery is also significant for its collection of iron fence that highlights several family burial plots.

9. Major Bibliographical References	S-44 & S-4 <del>65</del>
Maryland Inventory of Historic Propert Trust, Annapolis.	ies: Somerset County. Maryland Historical
Touart, Paul Baker. <u>Somerset: An Archit</u> and Somerset County Historical Trust, I	ectural History. Maryland Historical Trust inc., 1990.
Williams, William Henry. The Garden of 1769-1820. Wilmington, Del: Scholarly	American Meth∞dism: The Delmarva Peninsula Resources, Inc., 1984.
	See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):  preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Primary location of additional data:  X State historic preservation office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Specify repository:
10. Geographical Data	×
USGS Quad: Deal Island, MD	
UTM References  A 1 8 4 1 7 0 1 0 4 2 2 3 2 6 0  Zone Easting Northing  C	B Zone Easting Northing  D See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	
	X See continuation sheet 10.1
Boundary Justification	
Form Prepared By	X See continuation sheet 10.1
Paul Baker Touart, Architectur	vol Wintervier

10/15/87

(301)651-1094

Maryland zip code 21871

\_\_ date \_

\_\_\_\_ telephone \_

state \_\_

Somerset County Historical Trust

P.O. Box 5

Westover

organization \_

city or town \_\_\_

street & number \_

### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

# ..ational Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel 365 Somerset County, Maryland S-44 & S-465

Section number \_\_\_\_10 \_\_\_ Page \_\_\_1

### ·VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

All that lot or parcel of land situate in Deal Island Election District, Somerset County, Maryland, beginning for the same at the northwest corner of the church property along Deal Island Road (State Route 363) and heading in a easterly direction for approximately 450 feet to a point that serves as the northeast corner of the church lot, thence due south for approximately 187 feet to a point, thence due east for 75 feet to another point, thence due south for 37.5 feet, thence due east once more for another 37.5 feet to a point, thence due south partially following the western edge of a dirt road for 450 feet to a point that establishes the southeast corner of the church lot, thence in a westerly direction for 150 feet to a point along the east side of Deal Island Road, thence by and with the east side of the aforesaid road for approximately 750 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2.5 acres more or less. See map on Continuation Sheet No. 10.2

#### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The 2.5 acres accompanying this nomination includes two churches, St. John's United Methodist Church and the Joshua Thomas Chapel as well as a significant collection of nineteenth-century tombstones and cemetery fence. The boundary line on the west side follows the Deal Island Road, which has been in use throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The other, irregular boundary lines to the north, east and south are more arbitrary and separate the church lot from adjacent ground that is not significant to the nomination.

S-44 Joshua Thomas Chapel Deal Island public worship

1850

The Joshua Thomas chapel holds a critically prominent place in the history of Methodism for the lower Shore. Architecturally, the gable fromt church is the oldest surviving building that housed a Methodist congregation in Somerset County.

Methodist gatherings were begun as early as 1781 on Deal Island, and tent meetings were held at "Evan's Hill," beginning on July 17,1828. In 1849 the place of worship was relocated to "Park's Grove," the former name for the current church site. Father Joshua Thomas delivered his final sermon in this chapel in 1850, and after his death in 1853, he was buried at the south corner of the building. Accompanying the church on the knoll during the second half of the nineteenth century were an academy, the post office, the camp ground, and a meeting hall for the Sons of Temperance.

Surrounding the gable fromt Greek Revival style chapel is the extensive nineteenth and twentieth century cemetery, and standing due west is the second church, St.

Johns Methodist Episcopal Church (S-365).

## Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No. 2000444408

DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

1. Nam	e (indicate pr	eferred name)		
historic Josh	nua Thomas Chape	1		
and/or common				
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	East side of D	eal Island Road	(MD363)	not for publication
city, town $D \in$	eal Island	vicinity of	congressional distri	ct First
state Mary]	land	county	Somerset	
3. Clas	sification			
Category  districtX building(s) structure site object	Ownership public X private both Public Acquisition in process being considered X not applicable	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible _X_ yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence X religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	<b>rty</b> (give names a	nd mailing addre	sses of <u>all</u> owners)
name Truste	ees of St. Johns	II M Church		
	c/o Rev. Harry		telephone	e no.:
•	al Island		and zip code MI	1 21821
		al Description		21021
		erset Co. Clerk		liber
street & number	Somerset Count	y Courthouse		folio
city, town Prin	icess Anne		sta	te MD 21853
		in Existing	Historical Su	ırveys
title Maryla	and Historical S	ites Inventory		
_date			federal X	state county loca
depository for su	urvey records Maryla	nd Historical Tr	ust	
city, town Ann	napolis		sta	te MD 21401

<b>7.</b>	Des	crip	tion

Survey No.

S-44

Condition

\_ excellent

deteriorated

Check one Check one \_ unaltered

X original site

 $\underline{X}$  good \_\_ fair

ruins \_\_ unexposed \_ moved date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

## Joshua Thomas Chapel description

\_X\_ altered

The Joshua Thomas Chapel stands on a elevated knoll on the east side of Deal Island Road in the center of the village of Deal Island, Somerset County, Maryland. The single-story gable front frame church is surrounded by cemetery, and standing near the chapel is St. John's United Methodist Church, the main building. Facing west, the frame chapel is oriented on an east/west axis.

Erected in 1850, the gable-front church is supported by a raised common bond brick foundation, and it is sheathed with weatherboards. The medium pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Located immediately south of the front steps is the grave site of Joshua Thomas.

The west (main) elevation is a pedimented facade with a center double door entrance. The pair of paneled doors is framed by a simply executed entablature with plain pilasters. The pediment is highlighted by a stepped bed molding, and the flush board tympanum is pierced by an eight-pane rectangular window.

Each side of the church has three evenly spaced twelve-over twelve sash windows. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed corniced with a stepped bed molding. The back of the building is a plain weatherboard wall.

The interior of the chapel has been somewhat remodeled, but the Victorian pews remain as well as a mid nineteenth-century altar. The few doors and windows are framed by plain surrounds with plain corner blocks. Beaded board wainscoting has been added to the perimeter of the room. A simple rectangular shaped surround frames the space behind the altar and two large support posts are centered within the room.

8. Si	gnificance	Survey No. S-44
Period prehis 1500-1 1600-1 1700-1 X 1800-1 1900-	1499 archeology-historic conservation 1599 agriculture economics 1699 _X_ architecture education 1799 art engineering	law science literature sculpture military social/ music humanitarian
Specific d	ates 1850 Builder/Architect	
	Applicable Criteria: A B C D and/or Applicable Exception: A B C D	EFG
I	Level of Significance:nationalstate	local
Prepare l support.	ooth a summary paragraph of significance and a	a general statement of history and

### SIGNIFICANCE

The Joshua Thomas Chapel holds a critically prominent place in the history of Methodism in Somerset County. Architecturally, the chapel is the oldest surviving building that housed a Methodist congregation, established as early as 1781. Built in 1850 and named in honor of Reverend Joshua Thomas, this building follows the Greek Revival style with its pedimented gable front. The building has received only slight modifications since it was erected.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No 5-44

IO. Geograph	ical Data		
Acreage of nominated property Quadrangle name TM References do NOT co			Quadrangle scale
Zone Easting	Northing	B Zone Ea	sting Northing
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	n and justification		
erbal boundary descriptio		apping state or coun	ty boundaries
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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

Form 10-445 (5/62)

1. STATE Haryland HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY **INVENTORY** Somerset COUNTY TOWN Deal Island VICINITY 5-44 2 NAME Deal Island methodist Church STREET NO. DATE OR PERIOD ORIGINAL OWNER Deal Island Methodist 1850 (dated) ARCHITECT Greek Revival STYLE ORIGINAL USE Church PRESENT OWNER Deal Island methodist BUILDER PRESENT USE Church 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE WALL CONSTRUCTION Clapboard NO. OF STORIES

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

**OPEN TO PUBLIC** Yes

This building is the Joshua Thomas Chapel at the rear of the present Deal Island Methodist Church which is a nondescript Victorian structure. The chapel is a late Greek Revival structure, a type which is unusual in Somerset County. There are double doors on the front, which has the small rectangular window in the pediment.

At present themchapel appears to be unused.

Joshua Thomas is buried beneath the chapel. He is famous for speeading Methodism through this part of Maryland.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior

Deteriorating

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

Paul A. Brinkman

2/8/67

DATE OF RECORD

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## STATE: COUNTY:

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

	INVENTOR	ITANIMON - Y	ON	FORM		Somerset FOR NPS US			
	(Type all entries complete applicable sections)			ENTRY OATE			┨		
5 200	NAME				,	<u> </u>			
****	COMMON:								4
	Joshua Thomas Char	pel and Grave	of	Joshua	Thomas				
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	1								
2	LOCATION								1
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6.33	OWNER OF PROPERTY								<u></u>
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8	LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC	RIPTION							
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CONDITION	İ						
	☐ Excellent	X Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed	
		(Check Or	ne)		(Check One)		
	│ │ │ Alter		▼ Unoltered		Moved	☐ Original Site	

The Joshua Thomas Chapel is located in a cemetery behind St. John's Methodist Church on the east side of Maryland Route 363 on Deale Island. The simple one story frame structure on a brick foundation presents a typical example of a mid-19th century ecclesiastical structure on the southern Eastern Shore. The entrance on the west gable end is comprised of large double doors each with five panels. The architrave which covers both doors has corner blocks. This motif is repeated through out the chapel. The four over four pane window in the pediment comprises the only fenestration on the west facade.

The north and south elevations each have long, nine over nine sash windows. A chimney rises out of the roof on the south elevation between the center and westernmost window. The entire sturcture is encircled with a plain cornice.

The interior consists of one large room with four piers in the center which support the roof. A narrow platform with a simple pulpit sits at the east end.

Joshua Thomas' grave is located in the adjoining cemetery.

ERIOD <i>(Check One or More as</i>	Appropriate)			
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century	
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	X 19th Century		
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known)			
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)		
Abor iginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning	
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	(Specify)	
Historic	☐ industry	losophy	<u>local History</u>	
Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science		
Architecture	Londscape	☐ Sculpture		
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-		
Commerce	Literature	itarion		
Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater		
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation		

The Joshua Thomas Chapel was named for a Methodist preacher whose ministry to the people of the islands on the Eastern Shore is still remembered 1 - cally over a century after his death. The annual Joshua Thomas Memorial Day, the Sunday before Labor Day, continues to draw large crowds of Methodists and is indicative of Thomas' strong local importance.

Thomas, called the "Parson of the Islands," traveled from island to island in a dugout canoe called "The Methodist." In 1814 he preached to British troops on Tangier Island and correctly predicted their defeat at Baltimore. In 1850, largely owing to his efforts this chapel was built. It provided a permanent home for Methodists who had previously worshipped out of doors.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Webster, Elwood W., Chairman, Board of Trustees, St. John's Methodist Church, Deale Island, Maryland. Notes. April 1972. Files of Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

M. GEOG	RAPHICAL	L DATA					-			
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tional	tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law									
89-66	89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion					National Register.				
	in the National Register and certify that it has been									
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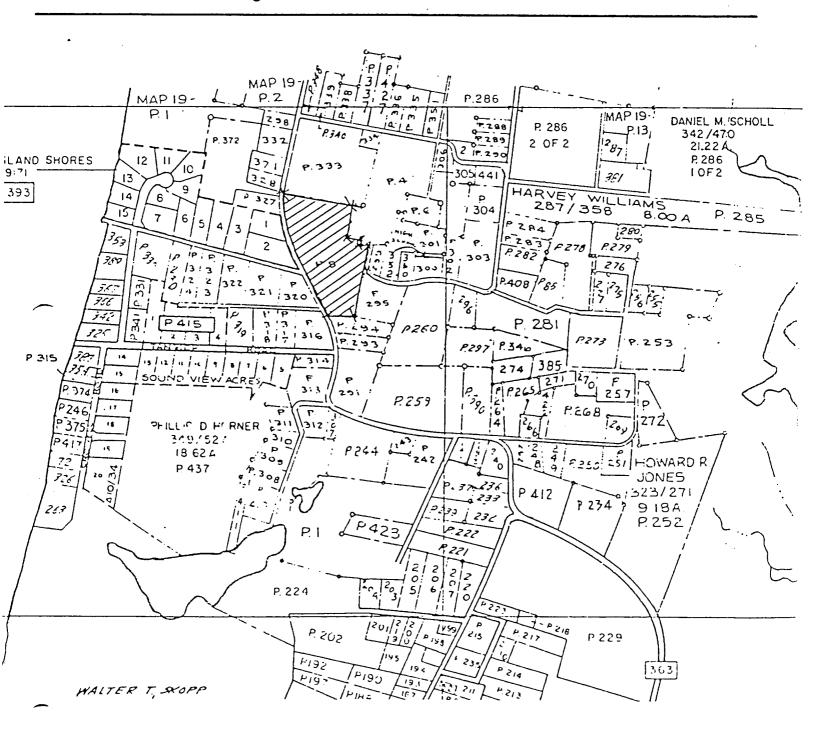
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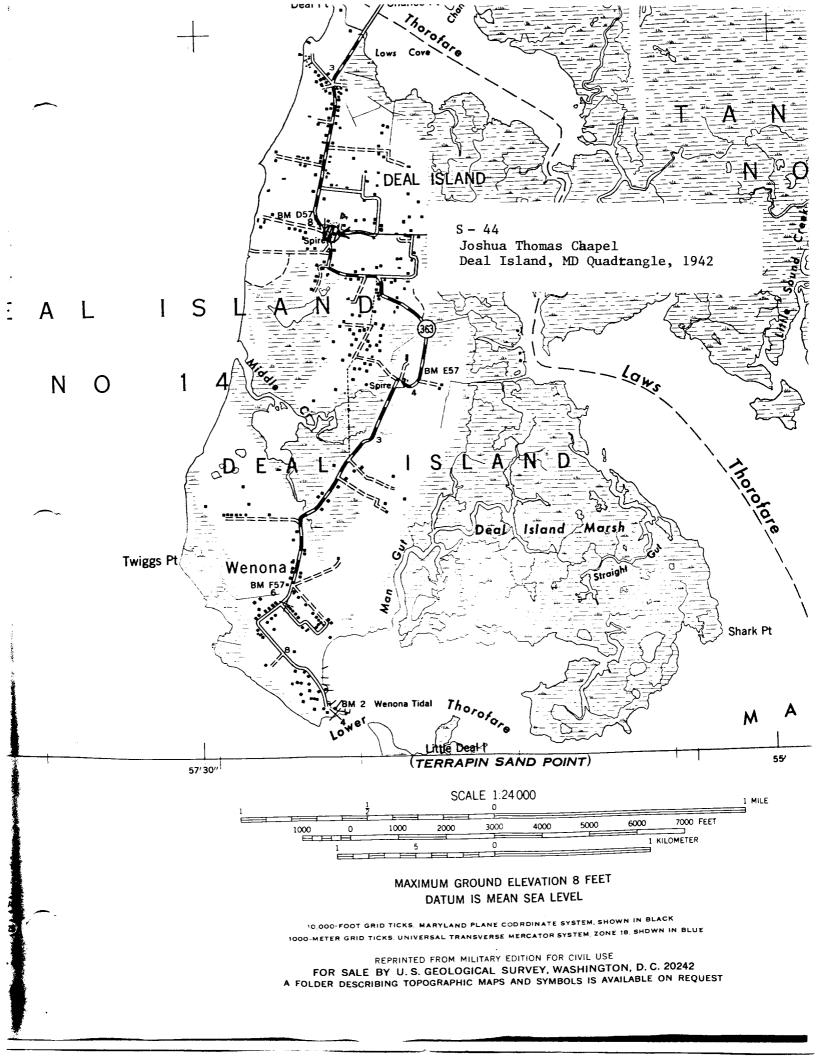
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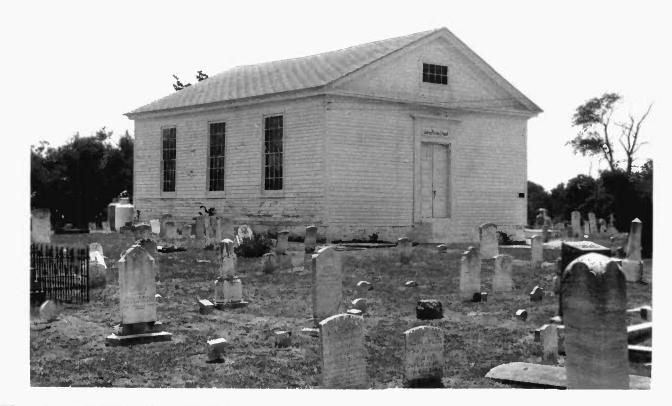
## **Continuation Sheet**

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel Somerset County, Maryland S-44 & S-465

Section number \_\_\_10 Page \_\_\_2







Joshua Thomas Chapel
Deal Island, Somerset Co. Md.
Northwest Elevation
7/86, Paul Touart Photographer
Neg/Md. Historical Trust

S-44

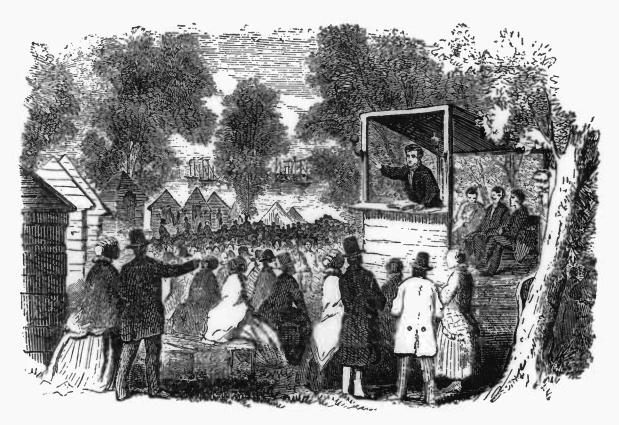


Joshua Thomas Chapel S-44
Deal Island, Somerset Co., Md.
Northwest Elevation
8/86, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust





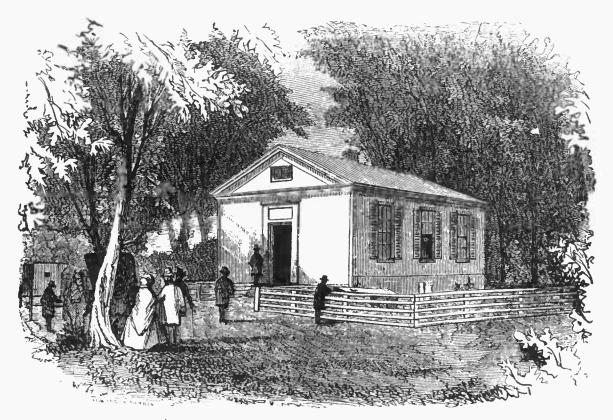
Joshua Thomas Chapel S-44
Deal Island, Somerset Co. Md.
North elevation
7/86, Paul Touart, Photographer



DEAL'S ISLAND CAMP MEETING

5-44

Deal Island Camp Meeting Taken from The <u>Parson of the Islands</u> By Adam Wallace, 1872, p. 93 Neg./Md. Historical Trust

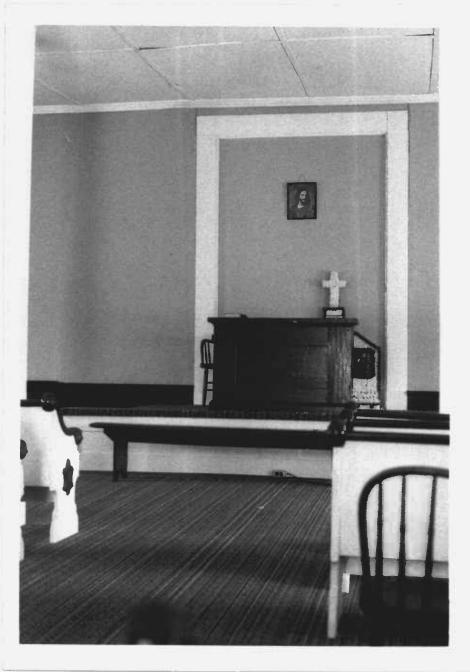


DEAL'S ISLAND M. E. CHURCH—GRAVE OF REV. JOSHUA THOMAS

Engraving of Joshua Thomas Chapel S-44
Taken from The Parson of the Islands
By Adam Wallace, 1872, p. 151
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Joshua Thomas Chapel Cemetery S-44
Deal Island, Somerset Co., Md.
Cemetery
8/86, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

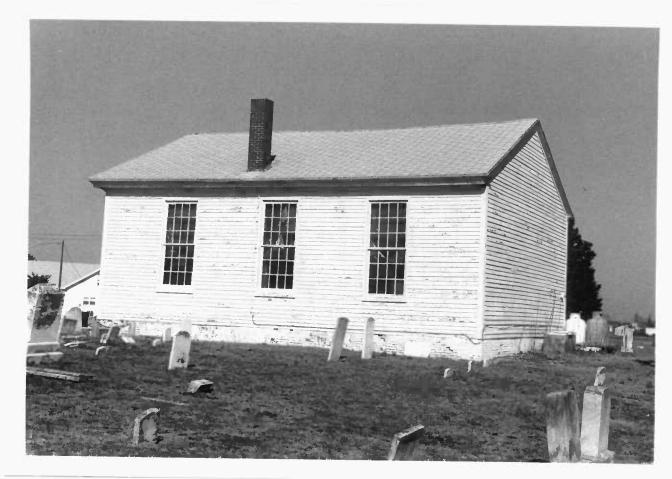


Joshua Thomas Chapel S-44
Deal Island, Somerset Co., Md.
Chapel Interior
8/86, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Joshua Thomas Chapel
Deal Island, Somerset Co. Md.
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7/86, Paul Touart, Photographer
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S-44



JACKER THOUGHT I'MALL